



## State Budget 2005/06 Information Sheet

### Groups Facing Particular Disadvantage – Family & Domestic Violence

Many of WACOSS' recommendations were not funded in the Budget. However, there were some new initiatives including: screening and assessment models to ensure violence is responded to by government services and hospital emergency departments, a consumer advisory group to provide policy advice, and resources for men, seniors, women in rural regions and people with mental health issues. There were also some new rural and remote initiatives which are outlined in the regional information sheet.

WACOSS' Recommendation	Government's Pre-election Commitment <sup>1</sup>	Budget Outcome
Provide a state-wide voice on domestic and family violence through increased funding for the <b>Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Service</b> . \$40 000 plus recurrent \$98 000 pa.	Commitment to the continuation of current levels of funding for the Women's Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific budget allocation.</li> </ul>
Intensive <b>counselling for children</b> dealing with the impact of violence in the home by providing funds to the Women's Refuge Service.	An expansion of services for children and young people in some regional centres and Peel would be considered in future budget planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific budget allocation.</li> </ul>
<b>Co-ordinators</b> for all <b>Domestic Violence Advocacy Services</b> .	Supports the provision of a co-ordinator for DVAS Central and for other co-ordinated services to be developed in other metropolitan and regional centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific budget allocation.</li> </ul>
Implementation of a mandatory <b>school programme</b> for all students focusing on <b>healthy/unhealthy relationships</b> and the impact of family and domestic violence	Once pilot programmes relating to healthy/unhealthy relationships have been conducted in schools, and evaluated, consideration can be given to expanding this form of community education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnerships with government and community stakeholders, develop resources for children and young people.</li> </ul>
Funding to raise <b>public awareness</b> in relation to research focused on links between <b>animal cruelty as an issue indicating family and domestic violence</b>	Funds already provided in 2004-2005 to raising community awareness. No specific commitment for the Budget.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific budget allocation.</li> </ul>
Funding for a project to ensure both the <b>recording</b> of acts of <b>animal cruelty</b> and the provision of adequate <b>management of offenders</b> as well as <b>prevention</b> mechanisms in the community	Provided funding to the RSPCA to undertake research on the issue in collaboration with Murdoch University. No specific commitment for the Budget.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific budget allocation.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> This is an abridged version of the Government's response to WACOSS' Pre-Budget Submission, for full details please refer to WACOSS' *The Social Issues Scorecard 2005*